

**Montana Association  
Family, Career and Community Leaders of America**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE 1-Name, Mission and Purpose**

Section A The name of this Association shall be Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Members are hereinafter referred to as Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. The letters FCCLA may be officially used to designate the association, the chapters or members thereof.

Section B The mission of the organization is to promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer sciences education. Focusing on multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life through---

- character development;
- creative and critical thinking;
- interpersonal communication;
- practical knowledge; and
- vocational preparation.

Section C Organized instruction relating to the mission is a part of the family and consumer sciences education program in the schools. The purposes of the organization shall be as follows:

1. To provide opportunities for personal development and preparation for adult life.
2. To strengthen the function of the family as basic unit of society.
3. To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
4. To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
5. To promote greater understanding between youth and adults.
6. To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.
7. To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
8. To promote family and consumer sciences careers and related occupations.

**ARTICLE II - Organization**

Section A The Montana Association is the state association for pupils studying family and consumer sciences in middle, junior and/or high schools. It shall consist of chapters in schools where family and consumer sciences education is offered.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Section A Membership in this association shall be of two kinds: (1) active, and (2) honorary.

Section B Active Members. Any student who is taking or has taken a course in family and consumer sciences and/or family and consumer sciences-related occupations through grade twelve shall be eligible for active membership in an organized chapter within the school. Active members shall be eligible to hold office, to make motions and to vote.

Section C Honorary Members. Any individual who has helped to advance the family and consumer sciences program or has rendered outstanding service to the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the officers present at any official meeting of the state executive council. Any chapter may recommend an individual for honorary membership.

Honorary members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office, but they shall be entitled to wear the official FCCLA pin with a special guard which shall be an H.

The awarding of the honorary membership shall be limited to one for each chapter and four for the state association in any one year.

The levels of honorary membership will be denoted by symbols as follows: (1) Chapter Honorary Member-scroll, and (2) State Honorary Member - torch.

#### **ARTICLE IV - Personal Growth Achievement**

Section A The growth of individual members of the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America may be recognized through awards presented for individual progress in the Power of One program. Participation in this program shall be optional for members.

Section B Guidance for members working on Power of One is at the local level. Recognition of achievement may take place (1) at the local level with the purchase of pins or charms for each completed module, (2) at the state level with a certificate for completing all five modules, and (3) at the national level for completing all five modules.

#### **ARTICLE V - Emblem**

Section A The emblem of the Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America will be consistent with the emblem of the national organization.

#### **ARTICLE VI - Officers**

Section A The officers of the State Executive Council of Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, State Officers of: Public Relations, Parliamentary Law, Peer Education, Student Body, STAR Events, Special Programs, and Financial Fitness. In addition, up to two State Officers at large will be designated. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by the incoming state officers at the State Leadership Conference each year. It will be up to the incoming officers to decide how to designate the remaining offices: by appointment, mutual consensus, or election. Up to two National Officer Candidates selected at the State Leadership Conference are appointed as "at large" members of the Executive Council.

Section B The state adviser shall be the administrative officer of the state association. That person shall be a member of the state supervisory staff. The state supervisor of family and consumer sciences education shall appoint the state adviser (or act in this capacity) and shall give general guidance to the program.

Section C In the event that the at large officer(s) is/are elected to national office, he/she/they will resign his/her/their position on the state executive council. This/these position(s) will remain vacant for the remainder of the term.

#### **ARTICLE VII - Executive Council**

Section A There shall be a state executive council composed of the state officers, the national officer candidate(s), (referred to as "state officer at large"), the state adviser, the state supervisor, the state chapter parent and one chapter adviser. (Adults shall serve without vote.)

The executive council shall have authority and control over the association subject to such regulations and bylaws as may be adopted by the association.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - Advisory Board**

Section A There shall be a state advisory board of the Montana Association of FCCLA composed of: (1)

the family and consumer sciences teacher educator in each of the post-secondary institutions, (2) six FCCLA chapter advisers, (3) and ex-officio members including the FCCLA state adviser, the Family and Consumer Sciences state specialist, the FCCLA state chapter parent, a current FCCLA state officer, an immediate past FCCLA state officer.

## **ARTICLE IX - Meeting and Conventions**

Section A The state meeting of the Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America shall be held annually, except in cases of extreme emergency when it may be canceled by the state advisory board with the approval of the state executive council.

Section B Before a chapter is eligible to attend the FCCLA State Leadership Conference, the chapter must be in "good standing" at the district level with regard to financial obligations, and be affiliated at the state and national levels prior to the deadline established by the state and national associations. The adviser of the District President will notify the state adviser of any chapters not in good financial standing at the district level.

The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the state executive council with the approval of the state advisory board.

## **ARTICLE X - Dues**

Section A National Dues. Individual membership dues shall be determined by the national executive council upon recommendation of the national advisory board, and subject to the approval of the delegates at the annual national meeting.

Section B State Association Dues. State membership dues shall be determined by the state executive council subject to the approval of a majority vote of the membership. Such dues shall be in addition to the national dues. Membership dues shall be sent to the national office prior to March 1.

Section C Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be July 1 through June 30.

## **ARTICLE XI - Amendments**

Section A Proposed amendments or bylaws to the state constitution of the Montana Association of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America may be submitted in writing to the state executive council by any chapter.

The state executive council shall review and assemble the proposed amendments and bylaws from all chapters in the state and shall submit them to the state adviser at least sixty (60) days prior to the state association meeting. The state adviser shall review the proposed changes and return them to the chapters for a study at least thirty (30) days prior to the state meeting.

Amendments and revisions made in the national bylaws will be reported to the delegates at the state meeting. If the national revisions change the state constitution, these revisions will become automatic.

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - Duties of State Officers and State Adviser**

Section A President. It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the state association meeting of the

FCCLA and over meeting of the state executive council. The president shall appoint all committees and may serve as an ex-officio member of these committees.

Section B Vice President. In the event the state president is unable to attend an executive council meeting or state meeting, the state vice president shall assume the president's duties.

Section C Secretary. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep accurate records of the sessions at the FCCLA state meeting and at meetings of the state executive council. The secretary shall be chairperson of the membership committee.

Section D Treasurer. The treasurer shall review receipts and disbursements based upon the records submitted by the state adviser and make a report, which has been approved by the executive council, to the delegates assembled at the state meeting on the financial status of the association.

Section E State Adviser. The state adviser shall be the administrative officer of the association. It shall be the duty of the state adviser to (1) direct the work of the association; (2) advise with the state executive council, delegates, and committees on matters of policy; (3) keep permanent records of district and state proceedings; (4) serve as ex-officio member of all committees; (5) assist chapters in setting up their programs; (6) direct the national organization to forward state affiliations to the party contracted by the FCCLA State Advisory Board to perform bookkeeping for the State Association; (7) perform other duties as necessary.

Section F Other Officers. All other officers shall be given duties unique to each year. These duties will be decided by the current executive council respective of their titles.

## **ARTICLE II - Duties of the Executive Council**

Section A The duties and responsibilities of the state executive council shall be as follows: (1) determine policies and procedures; (2) determine what business shall be brought before the assembled delegates; (3) pass upon recommendations for honorary membership; (4) conduct such other business as is necessary to further the progress of the association.

## **ARTICLE III - Duties of the State Advisory Board**

Section A The duties and responsibilities of the state advisory board shall be as follows: (1) serve in an advisory capacity to the state executive council; (2) help determine policies and procedures; (3) advise with the state adviser on the work of the association; (4) care for all legal matters; (5) help determine the place and time for the state meeting; and (6) designate an insured person/firm to keep the books for the State Association.

Section B The chairman of the state advisory board and the person/firm designated by the Board to provide bookkeeping services for the organization shall be the two signatures on all State Association checks.

## **Article IV - Vacancies on Executive Council**

Section A If the office of president shall become vacant, the vice president shall automatically assume the office and duties of the president. Appointments for vacancies of vice president, secretary or treasurer shall be made by the president in consultation with the state adviser.

Section B In the event any state officer (district chairperson) leaves school (including early graduation) or cannot serve the term of office, the district vice chairperson will assume the office. If the district vice chairperson is not available, then the originally elected officer's chapter shall elect one of its members to take

the office.

## **ARTICLE V - Districts of Montana Association of FCCLA**

Section A There shall be eleven (11) districts of the Montana Association composed of counties as follows:

- I. Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Liberty, Teton and northern part of Lewis & Clark.
- II. Park, Gallatin, Meagher, Broadwater, southern part of Lewis & Clark.
- III. Choteau (except town of Highwood), Hill, Blaine, Phillips.
- IV. Yellowstone (except town of Laurel), Treasure, Musselshell, Rosebud, Bighorn, Powder River, Custer (except town of Miles City).
- V. Richland, McCone, Garfield, Prairie, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon, Custer, and town of Miles City.
- VI. Powell, Mineral, Ravalli, Missoula, Sanders (except town of Hot Springs), Granite, Deer Lodge.
- VII. Lake, Lincoln, Flathead and town of Hot Springs.
- VIII. Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt.
- IX. Cascade, Judith Basin, Fergus, Petroleum, and town of Highwood.
- X. Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Carbon, Wheatland, Golden Valley, and town of Laurel.
- XI. Madison, Beaverhead, Jefferson, Silver Bow.